

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-14

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4143

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

CINCPAC

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EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, TH

SUBJECT: PM THANOM STATEMENT ON US BASES AND MILITARY FORCES

CINCPAC ALSO PASS POLAD

1. PRIME MINISTER THANOM AT PRESS CONFERENCE JUNE 20 SAID THAT RTG IS CONSIDERING APPROPRIATENESS OF REVISING STATUS OF US BASES AND MILITARY FORCES IN THAILAND IN VIEW OF PRESENT SITUATION IN SEA. FURTHER POINTED OUT THAT RTG HAS SOLE RIGHT DETERMINE WHETHER US BASES AND MILITARY PERSONNEL WILL REMAIN, AND " US HAS NO RIGHT TO DEMAND ANYTHING".

2. THANOM STATEMENT WAS IN REPLY TO NEWSMAN' S QUESTION AS TO WHETHER NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE HELD BETWEEN RTG AND USG FOR USE OF ANY OTHER BASE UNDER AGREEMENT SIMILAR TO THAT FOR UTAPAO. (RTG HAS APPROACHED SEVERAL NEWSMEN TO PLANT SUCH A QUESTION AND WE ASSUME THIS IS RESULT.) TRANSCRIPT OF PM' S REPLY TO QUESTION FOLLOWS:

BEGIN QUOTE . REGARDING UNITED STATES BASES IN THAILAND, I WISH TO
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POINT OUT THAT AN AGREEMENT WAS CONCLUDED BETWEEN THE THAI GOVERNMENT

AND THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT FOR AMERICAN BASES TO BE SET UP AND AMERICAN MILITARY FORCES TO BE STATIONED IN OUR COUNTRY. THE THAI GOVERNMENT ISSUED AN ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE SETTING UP OF AMERICAN BASES

AND THE STATIONING OF AMERICAN MILITARY FORCES IN OUR COUNTRY. REGARDING THE USE OF THE SITE AND PROVIDING MILITARY FACILITIES IN UTAPAO, AN ANNOUNCEMENT WAS ISSUED ON MARCH 22, 1967.

IT CAN BE SUMMARIZED THAT AT THE REQUEST OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT THE THAI GOVERNMENT AGREED TO ALLOW THE AMERICAN MILITARY TO USE SOME OF THAILAND'S FACILITIES IN UTAPAO WITH THE JOINT OBJECTIVE TO PREVENT DANGER AND TO OPPOSE COMMUNIST AGGRESSION FROM BECOMING EXPANDED IN THIS REGION AND TO OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD, ESPECIALLY TO THAILAND. IN ALLOWING AMERICAN BASES TO BE SET UP AND AMERICAN MILITARY FORCES TO BE STATIONED IN OUR COUNTRY AT PRESENT, THAILAND ADHERES FIRMLY TO FOUR PRINCIPLES. 1. THE INTENTION TO MAKE THE ENEMY STOP COMMITTING AGGRESSION IN LAOS AND CAMBODIA BECAUSE WE

CONSIDER THAT DANGER MENACING THE STABILITY AND SECURITY OF THOSE TWO COUNTRIES HAS REPERCUSSIONS ON THE SECURITY OF THAILAND AND OF THE WORLD. 2. SO LONG AS THE OTHER SIDE DOES NOT CONFORM STRICTLY AND IN FULL TO THE PEACE AGREEMENTS CONCLUDED BETWEEN UNITED STATES

AND NORTH VIETNAM ON THE INDOCHINA ISSUE, WHICH HAS GREAT REPERCUSSIONS ON PEACE AND QUIET IN THIS REGION IN COMMON AND ON THAILAND DIRECTLY, THAILAND CONSIDERS THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO ALLOW THE UNITED STATES TO CONTINUE HAVING BASES AND STATIONING MILITARY FORCES IN THAILAND TEMPORARILY, IN ORDER TO REDUCE AND TO RETORT TO VIOLATIONS OF THE PEACE AGREEMENTS. 3. AMERICAN BASES AND AMERICAN MILITARY FORCES STATIONED IN THAILAND ARE NOT CONCERNED OR INVOLVED IN ANY WAY WHATSOEVER WITH THE SUPPRESSION OF TERRORISTS IN OUR COUNTRY, AND WE HAVE NEVER, AT ANY TIME, REQUESTED THE UNITED STATES TO HELP IN THE TASK OF SUPPRESSION OF TERRORISTS. 4. THAILAND HAS THE RIGHT IN FULL TO DEMAND THE WITHDRAWAL OF BASES AND AMERICAN MILITARY FORCES FROM THAILAND ANY TIME, DEPENDING ON CONSIDERATION BY THE THAI GOVERNMENT WHETHER THERE IS ANY NECESSITY FOR FOREIGN BASES AND FOREIGN MILITARY FORCES TO CONTINUE REMAINING IN THAILAND. THIS IS A MATTER FOR US TO CONSIDER AND REACH A DECISION ON OURSELVES, AND THE UNITED STATES HAS NO RIGHT TO DEMAND ANYTHING.

REGARDING THE STATUS OF AMERICAN BASES AND AMERICAN MILITARY FORCES STATIONED IN THAILAND, THE GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING THE SUITABILITY TO REVISE THEIR STATUS IN ORDER TO COORDINATE WITH THE PRESENT SITUATION. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ATION. WHAT DEFINITE AGREEMENT IN THIS MATTER WILL BE CONCLUDED WITH THE UNITED STATES, OR IN WHAT FORM, WILL BE REACHED THROUGH DIPLOMATIC PROCEDURES. BOTH SIDES WILL FIND A WAY TO REACH AND CONCLUDE

AN AGREEMENT WHICH WILL BE ADHERED TO AS POLICY TO BE IMPLEMENTED
JOINTLY BY THAILAND AND THE UNITED STATES IN THE FUTURE.

IN REGARD TO RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR AMERICAN SERVICEMEN WHO
ARE STATIONED IN THAILAND, THEY WILL FOR EXAMPLE SPECIFY IN
WHAT WAYS THEY MUST ALIGN THEIR CONDUCT. WE WILL HOLD NEGOTIATIONS
FOR THOSE SERVICEMEN NOT TO BE ALLOWED TO ROAM ABOUT EVERYWHERE
AS THEY PLEASE OUTSIDE THEIR CAMPS, FOR EFFORTS TO BE MADE TO PRO-
VIDE THEM WITH VARIOUS SERVICES IN THEIR CAMPS, SUCH AS FOR MOVIE
THEATERS, ETC., TO BE SET UP AND PROVIDED IN THEIR CAMPS. END QUOTE.
MASTERS

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